

ture follows the outline or intervals of the disks and plates. The shell appears to be silicious and remains unchanged when exposed to the action of heated sulphuric and nitric acids."—*Op. cit.* p. 151.

The encystation of the naked and testaceous Amœbans, the process of "coagulation" and "consolidation" of the ectosarc by which the membranous structure of the encysting sac is produced, the formation of the *diaphragm* by which the mouth of the testaceous Amœbans is closed during their encystation, and the characters each of these parts assume, will be found described by me in the 'Annals' for May 1863, pp. 367 to 369; 'Annals,' Nov. 1863, p. 336; 'Annals,' Dec. 1863, p. 462; and 'Annals,' March 1864, p. 235.

It only remains for me to say that more admirably and truthfully executed figures of the freshwater Rhizopods have never been issued than those contained in Prof. Leidy's work. In no other publication have such indisputable proofs ever been brought together of the process of natural evolution from one end to the other of a very extensive and complete series of Protozoan organisms. Had Prof. Leidy dwelt somewhat more fully and distinctly than he has done on this the most striking feature in his researches he would indeed have conferred benefits of no ordinary magnitude upon the branch of science of which he is so distinguished an expositor\*.

### XLIII.—*Descriptions of three new Species of Geckos.*

By G. A. BOULENGER.

#### *Gecko pumilus*, sp. n.

In habit similar to *Lepidodactylus Guppyi*. Head small, body elongate, limbs moderate. Snout once and one third the diameter of the orbit, which equals the distance between the latter and the very small, round ear-opening; forehead scarcely concave. Head covered with small granules, which are considerably larger on the snout; rostral quadrangular, not quite twice as broad as long, with a short cleft above; nostril pierced between the rostral, the first labial, and three nasals; twelve upper and ten lower labials; three or four

\* I have but recently seen Mr. Romyn Hitchcock's "Synopsis" of Prof. Leidy's great work, and can confidently recommend it as a most useful compendium of information on the freshwater Rhizopods in general.

transverse rows of small hexagonal chin-shields. Dorsal scales uniform, minutely granular; ventrals much larger, roundish-hexagonal, subimbricate. Digits one third webbed, strongly dilated, with ten or eleven angularly curved lamellæ under the median toes. A short angular series of eleven præanal pores (merely indicated, the specimen being a female). Tail cylindrical, slightly depressed, covered with uniform small flat scales, largest inferiorly. Pale reddish brown above, brownish white inferiorly; a dark line on the loreal region; a few small black spots on the tail.

	millim.
Total length.....	84
Head.....	10
Width of head.....	5.5
Body.....	30
Fore limb.....	10
Hind limb.....	14
Tail.....	44

A single female specimen, from Murray Island, collected by the Rev. S. Macfarlane.

This species is so closely allied to those of the genus *Lepidodactylus* that the propriety of separating it from the latter appears to me somewhat doubtful. However, by its undivided infradigital lamellæ it agrees with the genus *Gecko*, as at present defined.

*Homopholis macrolepis*, sp. n.

Head oviform, depressed, its depth contained twice in its length; snout as long as the distance between the eye and the ear, scarcely longer than the diameter of the orbit; forehead and interorbital space concave; ear-opening small, roundish-subtriangular. Head covered with small granules, which are considerably larger on the snout; rostral six-sided, twice as broad as long, its three upper sides in contact with the anterior nasal and an internasal; nostril pierced between the rostral and six scales, the two anterior of which are the largest; eleven or twelve upper and eleven lower labials; none of the lower labials deeper than broad; mental small, trapezoid; a row of small chin-shields, the two median in contact with the mental. Dorsal scales larger than ventrals; about eighty-five scales round the middle of the body. Limbs as in *H. Wahlbergii*. Tail with imbricate scales as on the body, on the upper surface much smaller than on the lower. Uniform greyish above.

	millim.
Total length.....	170
Head.....	26
Width of head.....	20
Body.....	69
Fore limb.....	30
Hind limb.....	42
Tail.....	75

A single female specimen, from Delagoa Bay; presented by the South-African Museum, Cape Town.

*Rhopotropus ocellatus*, sp. n.

Head much depressed; snout broadly rounded, a little longer than the diameter of the orbit, as long as the distance between the latter and the ear; latter rather large, elliptical, oblique; forehead not concave. Head covered with flat granules, largest on the snout; rostral trapezoid, separating the nasals; nostril pierced between the first labial and two nasals; latter not swollen; seven upper and six lower labials; mental large, subtriangular, broader than long, in contact with two chin-shields; the chin-shields graduating into the smaller gular scales. Dorsal scales small, granular; ventrals much larger, roundish-hexagonal, imbricate. Limbs shorter than in *R. afer*; the adpressed hind limb reaches the axilla. Inner digit very short, not half the length of second. An uninterrupted series of thirty-one femoral and præanal pores in the male. Grey above, with round, dark-edged, whitish spots; a rather indistinct dark line on each side of the head, passing through the eye; lower surfaces whitish.

	millim.
From snout to vent.....	35
Head.....	11
Width of head.....	7
Fore limb.....	14
Hind limb.....	18

A single male specimen, from Cape Town; presented by the South-African Museum.

XLIV.—*Notice of two Lumbrici with bifid Hinder Ends.*

By Prof. F. JEFFREY BELL, M.A.

ON the 20th of June last Dr. Günther received from Dr. Kirkman, of Hastings, a small earthworm (*Lumbricus terrestris*) which was remarkable for having the hinder third of its body bifurcated. The figures now given are reproductions of the sketches made a few days later by Mr Mintern; they